GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2086
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2016
Production of Power by NLC
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

a) the quantity of power produced by Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) during the last three years and the current year;
b) Whether operation of mines and power production by NLC was affected due to incessant rain, flood and water logging in the last monsoon;
c) If so, the details thereof and the estimated loss thereof and the extent to which power production has been affected;
d) Whether the Government has taken any steps to restore the operation of mines and power production in NLC; and
e) If so, the details thereof ?

Answer

ANSWER
MINISTER OFSTATE (IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)
(a): The quantity of power produced by Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) during the last three years and current year up to February 2016 are furnished below:

Particulars of Generation of TPS (In MU) Generation (Million units)
2015-16(Upto Feb.'2016) 2014-15 2013-14 2012-13
TPS-I 2842.42 3631.05 4058.14 4035.43
TPS-I Exp 2949.86 3385.03 3292.10 3319.77
TPS-II 9525.56 11131.33 11179.16 11238.09
TPS-II Exp ** 819.83 199.57 21.01 28.20
TPS-Barsingsar 1177.49 1380.71 1438.24 1280.85
Wind Power** 23.41 1.44 - -
Solar Power** 7.13 - - -
Total 17345.70 19729.13 19988.65 19902.34
** Under Construction / Stabilization
(b)& (c): Neyveli received persistent rainfall for 23 days during November-December, 2015 resulting in disruption of Mining and power generation activities.There was anunprecedented rainfallof around 435 mm in 8 hourson 9th November 2015 which is the highest ever rainfall (in a day) since inception of NLC. During the month of November 2015 and during December 2015, rain fall of 943 mm and 424 mm respectively were recorded in Neyveli. All the mines of Neyveli got flooded and water entered into many of its power stations throwing the production and generation out of gear. Almost entire mining operation was paralyzed and there was a huge setback in power generation as all the pit head power stations suffered from lack of lignite supply and slushy lignite apart from technical problems faced due to entry of flood water in to power stations.

Due to heavy rain fall and unprecedented floods,a total shortfall of 14.02 LT of lignite production and 567.23 MU of power generation at Neyveli during the months of November 2015 and December 2015 occurred..

(d) &(e):At NLC pre monsoon preparations are done meticulously to prevent loss of production, men and machinery due to rain. However due to the unprecedented heavy rainfall of this quantum during November/ December 2015, the severest one of its kind in last 100 years in the region, the OB systems and the lignite bench system in all the mines and generation of power came to standstill during this heavy rainfall and consequential floods. During the heavy rainfall many feeders at Mines sub-station tripped due to the gusty winds and waves, water entered the Storm Water Control (SWC) pontoons and a number of pontoons commissioned in sumps got sub-merged. Due to tripping of feeders and submerging of pontoons, the SWC pumping and Ground Water Control (GWC) pumping were seriously affected immediately after rains. District Administration did not allow pumping out the water from the flooded mines (with apprehension of over flooding of surrounding villages), which worsened the situation and resulted in delay of bringing back the system. Power Generation was badly affected due to the heavy rainfall and also due to difficulties faced in transfer of slushy lignite and poor transportation of furnace oil from Chennai, affected due to Chennai flooding.

After the rainfall was over the production systems in Mines and Thermal power stations were re-commissioned after resolving issues in a phased manner and by the 3rd week of December 2015, normalcy was restored by speedy recovery actions.

All out efforts are being made in the IVth quarter of 2015-16 to restore / maximize the production of lignite and power generation in order to achieve the annual targets.

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